



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY AIR DEFENSE ARTILLERY CENTER AND FORT BLISS
1733 PLEASANTON ROAD
FORT BLISS TX 79916-6816

APR 15 2009

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MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Travel Policy for Mexico 09-001 (Prohibition of Travel to Mexican Border Cities and the State of Chihuahua)

1. References:

- a. Consulate General of the United States, Ciudad Juarez, Mexico Warden Message//4 Feb 09//
subject: Travel Warning for Guadalupe Bravo
- b. USNORTHCOM Force Protection Advisory Message 09-043//171205Z Feb 09//subject: Mexico Travel Policy
- c. Department of State Travel Alert//20 Feb 09//subject: Travel to Mexico
- d. USARNORTH Travel Force Protection Advisory for Mexico 09-001//201415Z Feb 09//subject: Mexico Travel Policy
- e. HQ IMCOM Force Protection Advisory FY 09-03//26 Feb 09//subject: Mexico Travel Advisory
- f. Consulate General of the United States, Ciudad Juarez, Mexico Warden Message//26 Feb 09//
(Advice on Carjackings)

2. The narcotics-related violence in Mexico has taken a heavy toll on municipal and state police forces, and their ability to respond to or control street crime has deteriorated. This has resulted in an increase in armed robberies, carjackings, car theft, bank robberies, and other crimes in Ciudad Juarez and throughout the state of Chihuahua. The reported conditions in Mexico continue to present an unacceptable risk to the health, safety, welfare, and morale of DoD personnel and their families.

3. Based on increasing violence reported by the Department of State, Consulate General of the United States of America (Ciudad Juarez) and recommendations by the Commanders, USNORTHCOM and USARNORTH, the following measures are effective immediately:

a. The Mexican state of Chihuahua and all Mexican cities along the U.S. – Mexican border are off-limits to Service members assigned to Fort Bliss until further notice.

b. Land travel by personal automobile (includes vehicles and motorcycles) into and throughout Mexico, for unofficial travel, is prohibited. Service members may use public conveyances for travel (includes rental cars and busses) between the airport and destination and in and around transportation at the destination. The intent is for Service members not to travel by personal automobile in Mexico due to the increase of carjackings, lack of effective law enforcement and the degraded security environment.

4. I strongly urge Family members, DoD Civilians, contractors and all other members of Team Bliss, including foreign military students, to not travel to or thru these areas for their own safety and security.

5. Brigade-level Commanders may approve travel to and thru these areas on a case-by-case basis for Family and emergency situations or critical mission requirements. Brigade Commanders will not

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delegate this approval authority. In these special circumstances, Commanders will take the following measures:

- a. Complete a thorough risk assessment of the situation in Mexico (www.travel.state.gov).
 - b. Ensure the Service member has current level I Antiterrorism Awareness Training (<https://atlevel1.ditc.mil/at/>) within 90 days of requested travel.
 - c. Soldier has received appropriate threat/area briefings from a qualified Antiterrorism Officer/ Brigade S-2 within 30 days of requested travel. If your organization does not have a qualified Antiterrorism Officer, contact the Plans and Operations Division, DPTMS, for assistance.
 - d. Possession of an emergency contact sheet by the traveler (chain of command, embassy/consulate).
6. The Commander, USNORTHCOM has set the FPCON as BRAVO for Mexico. To enhance the safety and security of DoD personnel, the following security measures, found in USARNORTH OPORD 05-01B dated 8 Jan 08, are in effect:
- a. Traveler BRAVO 1: If practical, follow the "buddy rule" for all movement.
 - b. Traveler BRAVO 2: Periodically exercise Antiterrorism contingency plans and drills.
 - c. Traveler BRAVO 3: Routinely check your vehicle(s) for improvised explosive devices (IEDs) or tampering.
 - d. Traveler BRAVO 4: If practical, park your vehicle(s) in secure areas, not accessible to uncontrolled personnel.
 - e. Traveler BRAVO 5: Vary routines.
 - f. Traveler BRAVO 6: Conduct weekly telephone liaison with nearest military installation, nearest U.S. security agency/element, and or local security elements and home station.
 - g. Traveler BRAVO 7: Determine and avoid high-risk areas and be cautious of mingling with crowds.
7. I will periodically re-evaluate these restrictions based on updated assessments by the installation's Antiterrorism / Force Protection officer. Please note that effective 31 January 2008, all U.S. citizens, including Soldiers, must have either a passport or an original / certified copy of their birth certificate and a government issued photo ID to reenter the United States. For additional information, refer to the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Consular Affairs web site found at http://travel.state.gov/travel/cbpmc/-cbpmc_2223.html.
8. This order does not affect travel to other areas of Mexico. Service members will follow the requirements of AR 600-8-10 and AR 525-13 accordingly.
9. For any emergencies involving U.S. citizens in Mexico, please contact the closest U.S. Embassy or Consulate. The U.S. Embassy is located in Mexico City at Paseo de la Reforma 305, Colonia Cuauhtemoc, telephone from the United States: 01 1-52-55-5080-2000; telephone within Mexico City: 5080-2000; telephone long distance within Mexico 01-55-5080-2000. You may also contact the Embassy by e-mail at: ccs@usembassy.net.mx. The Embassy's internet address is <http://www.usembassy-mexico.gov/>.
- a. Consulates:
 1. Ciudad Juarez: Paseo de la Victoria 3650, telephone (52) (656) 227-3000.
 2. Guadalajara: Progreso 175, telephone (52) (333) 268-2100.
 3. Hermosillo: Avenida Monterrey 141, telephone (52) (662) 289-3500.
 4. Matamoros: Avenida Primera 2002, telephone (52) (868) 812-4402.

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5. Merida: Calle 60 no. 338 k, telephone (52) (999) 942-5700.
6. Monterrey: Avenida Constitucion 411 Poniente, telephone (52) (818) 047-3100.
7. Nogales: Calle San Jose, Nogales, Sonora, telephone (52) (631) 311-8150.
8. Nuevo Laredo: Calle Allende 3330, col. Jardin, telephone (52) (867) 714-0512.
9. Tijuana: Tapachula 96, telephone (52) (664) 622-7400. During non-work hours, an American official may be reached at: 011-619-692-2154 (from Mexico) or 619-692-2154 (from the U.S.).

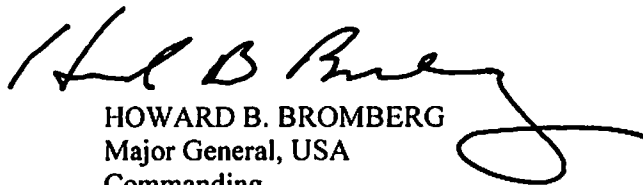
b. Consular Agencies: Information on the Consular Agencies can be found on the U.S. State Department Travel website: http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_970.html.

10. Entering Mexico with a firearm, any type of knife or even a single round of ammunition is illegal. Even if the weapon or ammunition is taken into Mexico unintentionally, the Mexican government strictly enforces its laws restricting the entry of firearms and ammunition along all land borders and at airports and seaports. Violations have resulted in arrests, convictions, and long prison sentences for U.S. citizens.

11. Military personnel who violate or fail to obey this policy will subject themselves to administrative or disciplinary action under Article 92, Uniform Code of Military Justice.

12. This letter supersedes the Temporary Off-Limits of Cities in Mexico, dated 11 December 2008.

13. Place this memorandum on unit bulletin boards and give it the widest dissemination.


HOWARD B. BROMBERG
Major General, USA
Commanding

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